

18 depart from the spirit and scope of the present invention, they should be construed as being included therein.

In the Claims:

Kindly amend claims 1 and 6 as follows:

19 1. (Amended) A semipermeable membrane support comprising,
a non-woven fabric including main fiber and binder fiber, both of which are formed
of synthetic resin fine fiber, the non-woven fabric being manufactured by paper making, heating and
pressing,
wherein the semipermeable membrane support has a ratio of a tensile strength in a paper
feeding direction to that in a width direction of 2:1 to 1:1.

20 6. (Amended) A semipermeable membrane support according to claim 1, wherein the
semipermeable membrane support has a capability of preventing bending thereof in the width
direction during a manufacture of the semipermeable membrane.

Kindly add the following new claims 12-19:

21 12. (New) A semipermeable membrane paper support comprising,
a calendared non-woven fabric including main fiber and binder fiber, both of which are formed
of synthetic resin fine fiber,
wherein the semipermeable membrane paper support has a ratio of a tensile strength in a paper
feeding direction to that in a width direction of 2:1 to 1:1.

22 13. (New) A semipermeable membrane paper support according to claim 12, wherein the
main fiber is formed of polyester fiber having an average single fiber fineness of 0.6 to 8.9 decitex.

14. (New) A semipermeable membrane paper support according to claim 12, wherein the binder fiber is formed of polyester fiber having an average single fiber fineness of 0.6 to 8.9 decitex.

15. (New) A semipermeable membrane paper support according to claim 12, wherein the non-woven fabric has an air permeability of 0.5 to 7.0 cc/cm²/sec.

16. (New) A semipermeable membrane paper support according to claim 12, wherein the non-woven fabric has an average pore size of 5 to 15 μ m.

17. (New) A semipermeable membrane paper support according to claim 12, wherein the semipermeable membrane paper support has a capability of preventing bending thereof in the width direction during a manufacture of the semipermeable membrane.

18. (New) A semipermeable membrane paper support according to claim 17, wherein the semipermeable membrane paper support has the ratio of the tensile strength in the paper feeding direction to that in the width direction of 1.5 : 1 to 1 : 1.

19. (New) A semipermeable membrane paper support according to claim 12, wherein a central line average roughness of a front surface of the semipermeable membrane paper support is larger than that of a rear surface of the semipermeable membrane paper support by 15 % or more, and wherein the semipermeable membrane paper support has an anchor effect to a semipermeable membrane when the semipermeable membrane paper support is applied with the semipermeable membrane on the front surface thereof.